

HOMELAND SECURITY CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The threat of terror and the posture to withstand its incursion is a salient issue facing American security. Highly trained specialists must compose the front lines of defense in the ongoing resistance to the terrorist element that attempts to undermine the American way of life. California University of PA acutely understands this extraordinary need for preparation and training in the dynamic of Homeland Security. As a result, the university, by and through its Institute for Law and Public Policy, now offers a Certificate in Homeland Security.

“We are today a Nation at risk to a new and changing threat. The terrorist threat to America takes many forms, has many places to hide, and is often invisible. Yet the need for homeland security is not tied solely to today’s terrorist threat. The need for homeland security is tied to our enduring vulnerability. Terrorists wish to attack us and exploit our vulnerabilities because of the freedoms we hold dear.”

(Office of Homeland Security, National Strategy for Homeland Security at the letter from the President of the United States (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2002))

Day to day, dedicated civil servants serve the needs of the collective. No role is as critical as the protection of the citizenry, institutions and commercial interests from the ravages of terrorism. The Homeland Security Certificate allows justice professionals, health, business, educational and legal specialists to concentrate on the methodology of security in this narrow context. Aside from the recurring demands of professional law enforcement, California University of PA’s Homeland Security Certificate Program delivers an eclectic investigation of Homeland Security – looking to not only the theory and philosophy of a protection system, but also a forum for creative and innovative approaches to this important undertaking.

THE PROGRAM DELIVERS CONTINUING EDUCATION WITH FOUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVES IN MIND:

- Develop strategies, plans and programs to prevent terrorist attacks within the United States, and reduce America’s vulnerability to terrorism;
- Build the organizational arrangements needed to strengthen Homeland Security (HS), including Local/State/Federal, civil-military and interagency cooperation;



- Help government leaders make immediate as well as longer-term improvements in HS preparedness, by having their conduct policy development work on “real world,” actionable opportunities for progress; and
- Educate professionals to carry out the diversity of tasks inherent in Homeland Security. Admission is open to those with professional and academic interests in the field of Homeland Security.

HOMELAND SECURITY CERTIFICATE PROGRAM CURRICULUM: 180 HOURS

US HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Homeland Security - Provides students with a thorough understanding of the strategic, political, legal, and organizational challenges associated with the defense of the U.S. homeland, the efforts that are under way to meet these challenges, and possible policy options.

TERRORISM, THREAT & VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS & PROTECTION

The course will help “bound the problem” of Homeland Security by examining how terrorism has spurred sharp changes in US strategy, policy and governmental design, and how those changes should continue over the near and long terms.

BIOLOGICAL, CHEMICAL, NUCLEAR & WMD THREATS IN HOMELAND SECURITY

This course gives a thorough overview of the different types of biological, chemical, nuclear and weapons of mass destruction in existence today. Vulnerability reduction, conducting risk assessments and vulnerability analyses are covered.

INTELLIGENCE PRACTICE IN HOMELAND SECURITY

This course examines threats, vulnerabilities, objectives, strategy, instruments of national power, resources, and risks associated with ensuring homeland defense. Course emphasis will be on issues affecting policy, oversight and intelligence support to Homeland Security and national decision-making.



STUDY HOMELAND SECURITY IN A VIRTUAL SETTING

Offered through the Keystone University Network, the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education’s Online University. www.keystone-university.net

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